

REMARKS

Claims 1-22 were originally filed. The Examiner acknowledges that Claims 4, 5, 7, 8, 10-12, and 14-19 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 4, 5, 7, 8, 10-12, and 14-19 have been rewritten accordingly. Claim 21 has been amended to be dependent upon Claim 4. Claim 22 has been amended to be dependent upon Claim 10. Therefore, Claim 21 and Claim 22 should be allowable. Claims 1-3, 6, 9, 13, and 20 have been cancelled. A new Claim 23 is presented herein on the basis of Claim 20. Thus, Claims 4, 5, 7, 8, 10-12, 14-19, and 21-23 are pending in this application.

With respect to the new Claim 23, Applicants respectfully submit that it is allowable because it is directed to process the signals in groups of at least three signals; this is the feature that is allowed by the Examiner in the allowable claims.

It is to be noted that the cancellation of Claims 1-3, 6, 9, and 20 does not imply that Applicants agree or consent to the rejections. The cancellation is done here for the sole purpose of accelerating the examination process. Applicants retain the right to further pursue the protection embedded in the cancelled claims by any available legal means such as filing a RCE and CIP.

Applicants respectfully request that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

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